

Memo

To: Authorized Instructors, Programs, Students, and Instructor Authorization Applicants
From: Paul Wobosel, Arizona State Fire Training Director
Date: 1/8/2010
Re: Fire Training Certification, Suspension of Operations

Effective January, 7, 2010, all training certification operations performed by our office have been suspended. Melina and Jeff were released from the agency through a reduction in force. I am here for the purpose of recovery operations only. As such, I will try to respond to the tremendous amount of questions we have received.

We are aware of the challenge that this has put on your programs. We understand your personal commitment to your students. Please understand that we too consider each and every student our personal customer. I state this because I need you to know we are all in this together. Please understand that we are aware of temporary solutions to your individual situations however, 100% of our current efforts will be focused on business recovery and a permanent solution to this challenging situation.

Authorized Instructors and Programs

For the past 14-months, our office has worked diligently to improve program documentation. We have greatly increased the expectations for program documentation and the results have been outstanding. Many of you helped us shape the processes and program accountability we have in place today. A small, but notable group of people created resistance to change that slowed our progress. In order to be successful, we need to curtail these actions and focus on positive change. Thanks to all of you (200+ members) for trusting in our efforts.

The key to future value and opportunity for training programs to be recognized for certification resides exclusively on content and documentation. The only advice I can provide right now is for Instructors and Programs to follow the guidelines we have established, clearly document Training to standards through syllabi and lesson plans, and maintain detailed and accurate student records. Regardless if/when we reestablish a certifying entity in the state, the ability to certify or accredit your training event is dependent on your documentation.

Current Programs are suspended at their present status. If you have not received certification documentation, you will not until a global solution to training certification has been achieved. If your program has tested but not scored, it will remain at that status. If your Program is complete but not tested, it will remain at that status. We have no capacity to perform these functions at this time.

Community Colleges must understand that lack of access to certification testing is not of their making nor is it part of their obligation to students. Your services are to provide education and knowledge which provides opportunity to test for state certification or state documentation of completion. I make this statement to take the pressure off of you for the unfortunate situation we are in.

Students

Students are advised that we will make every effort to transition training certification to an entity that will find value in the training you have received through your community college or fire department.

Authorized Instructors and Programs

All processes related to this initiative are temporarily suspended. The Training Section Review Committee should be able to fully resume this activity in the foreseeable future.